



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/654,718	09/05/2000	Dominic Paul McCarthy	SAND-P003	7315
22877	7590	12/11/2003	EXAMINER	
FERNANDEZ & ASSOCIATES LLP 1047 EL CAMINO REAL SUITE 201 MENLO PARK, CA 94025			OPIE, GEORGE L	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2126	2
DATE MAILED: 12/11/2003				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/654,718	McCarthy et al.
	Examiner George L. Opie	Art Unit 2151

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-25 is/are pending in the application.
 - 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) 1-25 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.
- 11) The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) approved b) disapproved.
- 12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).
 - a) All b) Some * c) None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been:
 1. received.
 2. received in Application No. (Series Code / Serial Number) _____.
 3. received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. & 119(e).

Attachment(s)

14) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	17) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
15) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	18) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
16) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____.	19) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____.

Art Unit: 2126

RESTRICTION**1. Groupings**

- I. Claims 1-13 drawn to scheduling processes, classified in class 709, subclass 102.
- II. Claims 14-16 and 23-25 drawn to handling transfer commands, classified in class 709, subclass 310.
- III. Claims 17-22 drawn to computer message routing, classified in class 709, subclass 238.

2. Subcombination, Usable Together

Inventions I, II and III are related as subcombinations disclosed as usable together in a single invention. The subcombinations are distinct from each other if they are shown to be separately usable. In the instant case, invention II has separate utility such as forwarding commands for interprocess communications, and invention III has utility for computer data routing. See MPEP § 806.05(d).

3. Conclusion

Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art I) as shown by their different classification, 2) because of their recognized divergent subject matter, and/or 3) the search required for Group I is not required for Group II, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

4. Telephone Requirement

A telephone call was made to Mr. Dennis Fernandez (Applicant's representative) on 4 December 2003 to request an oral election to the above restriction requirement, but did not result in an election being made.

5. Contact Information:**PTO Policy for Facsimile Submissions:**

- AFTER-FINAL faxes must be signed and sent to (703) 746-7238.
- OFFICIAL faxes must be signed and sent to (703) 746-7239.
- NON OFFICIAL faxes should be sent to (703) 746-7240.

All OFFICIAL faxes will be handled and entered by the docketing personnel. The date of entry will correspond to the actual FAX reception date unless that date is a Saturday, Sunday, or a Federal Holiday within the District of Columbia, in

Art Unit: 2126

which case the official date of receipt will be the next business day. The application file will be promptly forwarded to the Examiner unless the application file must be sent to another area of the Office, e.g., Finance Division for fee charging, etc.

- All responses sent by U.S. Mail should be mailed to:
Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
- Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park Two, 2021 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA., Sixth Floor (Receptionist). All hand-delivered responses will be handled and entered by the docketing personnel. Please do not hand deliver responses directly to the Examiner.
- Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist at **(703) 305-9600**.
- Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to George Opie at (703) 308-9120 or via e-mail at George.Opie@uspto.gov. Internet e-mail should not be used where sensitive data will be exchanged or where there exists a possibility that sensitive data could be identified unless there is an express waiver of the confidentiality requirements under 35 U.S.C. 122 by the Applicant. Sensitive data includes confidential information related to patent applications.



ZARNI MAUNG
PRIMARY EXAMINER